

**MEANSVILLE RILEY ROAD WATER COMPANY, INC.
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR, JANUARY 23, 2024
HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM AT MRWC 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT

Cindy Burnett
John Burnett
Robynne Burress
Mark Carroll
Angie Hauser
Otis Hembree
Hermine Keith
Don Tucker

TELECONFERENCE

Paula Brewster
Paul Bailey

ALSO PRESENT

Marcy Loucks
John Kingsmore
Paula Wright

Meeting Called to Order: Otis called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Love Bailey: Paul Bailey, CPA called in and stated he did not get started reconciling until January due to technical problems. He unreconciled nine months of bank reconciliations from October 2022 to May of 2023 because they did not match the bank statements exactly. Paul found out that there was a QuickBooks file and at the end of September 2022 there was a general entry made or attempt to bring over QuickBooks data into the new software and this was throwing off the numbers. He gave the following reasons why he thinks the Board should consider reverting to QuickBooks:

1. User friendly and reporting is fantastic.
2. Easy for the auditor to extract & review information each year.
3. Easy for bookkeeper and accountant to enter and review transactions.
4. FMS has more functionality data than MRWC needs.

Paul stated that he would finish the year 2022 by the next meeting in QuickBooks.

Kevin Youngblood suggested the QuickBooks online plus plan at \$45.00 per month for three months then \$90.00 per month. The huge plus is that you are not dependent on the server and can open it from anywhere. If needed employees could work from home. Paul suggested we start using QuickBooks desktop then switch over to online with the starting date of January 1, 2025.

Lawrence Flynn stated that in his opinion QuickBooks is preferred for payroll, accounts payable, and general ledger functions, and best suited for generating bills and tracking account receivable. He has several small-town clients that use QuickBooks for most functions, then specialty software for utility billing and municipal court functions.

Should the Board decide to revert to QuickBooks, we will need to send Southern Software an email stating we want to cancel everything but utility billing to Marci Lewandowski before June 30th of this year.

McKinley Cooper & Company: Marcy Loucks, auditor also agreed with the CPA that QuickBooks is more in line as to what MRWC needs. She stated everything was in order with the audit and she had submitted the 990. As of December 31, 2022, the total assets were \$9,400,000.00 million, total liabilities \$3,900,000.00 million, and the total net assets were \$5,400,000.00 million. The statement of activities also called profit and loss total operating revenues for the year of \$2,000,000.00 million, total operating expenses \$1,900,000.00 million, which left total operating

income of \$46,548.00. An increase in interest income of \$7,854.00 and the total increase in net assets of \$54,402.00 for the year. Marcy stated she will attend the Annual Meeting February 13.

Approve Minutes: Cindy made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 2nd called meeting and the November 28th regular meeting minutes. Don seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Correspondence: The company received a Principal Financial Group check in the amount of \$95.14. The net dividend for the year is \$286.99.

A cashier check was received for \$186.08 for charges made by Charlie Wilson that were associated with his credit card being on file while he was employed with MRWC.

Hully Bridge Road: John Kingsmore stated Hully Bridge Road is completed and he met Florence Hall last Friday. Total cost, labor, and fine was \$28,524.21 on running a three-inch line. The water will be turned on as soon as DHEC gives approval.

Highway 92 Bridge Hanger: Tim Lowery with Lowery Construction has not returned Rich Anderson's with Summitt Engineering calls. Tim has had the hangers made and we are still waiting for the hangers to be installed.

Blue Granite: According to Lawrence Flynn, company attorney, they are holding off for now on the project.

Project List: The five-year plan was discussed, and John Kingsmore stated he will prioritize the list.

Disposal of old vehicle: Angie made a motion, seconded by Cindy, and all voted in favor to advertise the 2012 Ford F-150 for sale on www.govdeal.com. for seal bids. It is a four-door truck in fair condition.

Review Committee: Paula Brewster, Robynne, Hermine, and Otis will serve on John Kingsmore's annual review committee.

SCRWA Decision Makers Summit: Angie and John Burnett will attend the South Carolina Rural Water Conference to be held at the Embassy Suites-Kingston Plantation Myrtle Beach. It will be Wednesday, February 21st through Friday, February 23rd.

FMS Users' Conference: Southern Software is having an FMS User's Conference on Tuesday, March 19th through Thursday, March 21st at the Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes by Marriott. It will be to learn more about the modules that we already have, and Paula Wright would like Laurin to attend. Mark made a motion per Paula Wright's recommendation for Laurin to attend, Don seconded the motion and all approved.

Six hundred Liberty Ridge Road Enoree: John Kingsmore stated water runs down Liberty Ridge Road and comes to Chigger Waddell Road and someone is building a house between Chigger Waddell Road and Rocky Ridge Road on Liberty Ridge Road. It is 1,225 feet one way and 1,270 feet the other way and John Kingsmore asked the Board would they like a two-inch line to the customer and stop or run line all the way through to the intersection. Hermine made a motion

to run a three-inch line all the way down Liberty Ridge Road for 2,500 feet to the customer and for future expansions, Cindy seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Water Line Expansion: Rich is working on drawings for Meadow Woods Road and will report to Katherine Farrand at COG.

Electronic Meetings: Lawrence Flynn, company attorney stated Board Directors can participate by electronic means, but they will not be able to vote on any matters. To give them electronic voting authority, we will need to amend the bylaws. Lawrence will attend the Annual Meeting in February.

Capital Credits: According to Lawrence capital credit needs to go on the bills. The IRS regulates that members must receive written notice of patronage capital. He stated the cost is a small price to pay to be in compliance with the IRS rules.

Lead and Copper: John Kingsmore stated the lead and copper report is due October 24 to the EPA and we will need to know if houses built from the year 1986 and before have lead and copper water pipes. We have satisfied our requirements for the EPA and have over 40% of our system recognized that we do not have any lead, lead joints, goose necks. There are 1,500 customers for whom it is not known whether our side has lead and 2,200 customers that we cannot confirm if lead and copper is on their side. Maintenance is now documenting when there is a leak on the service line whether it has lead and copper connections. A questionnaire will be placed on the website for customers to reply to what kind of fittings and line they have from their house to the meter.

Upcoming Events: The Annual Meeting will be on February 13th with the Regular Board Meeting to follow here in the conference room at 7:00 p.m.

Prayer: Don had the closing prayer.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Paula C. Wright
Board Secretary